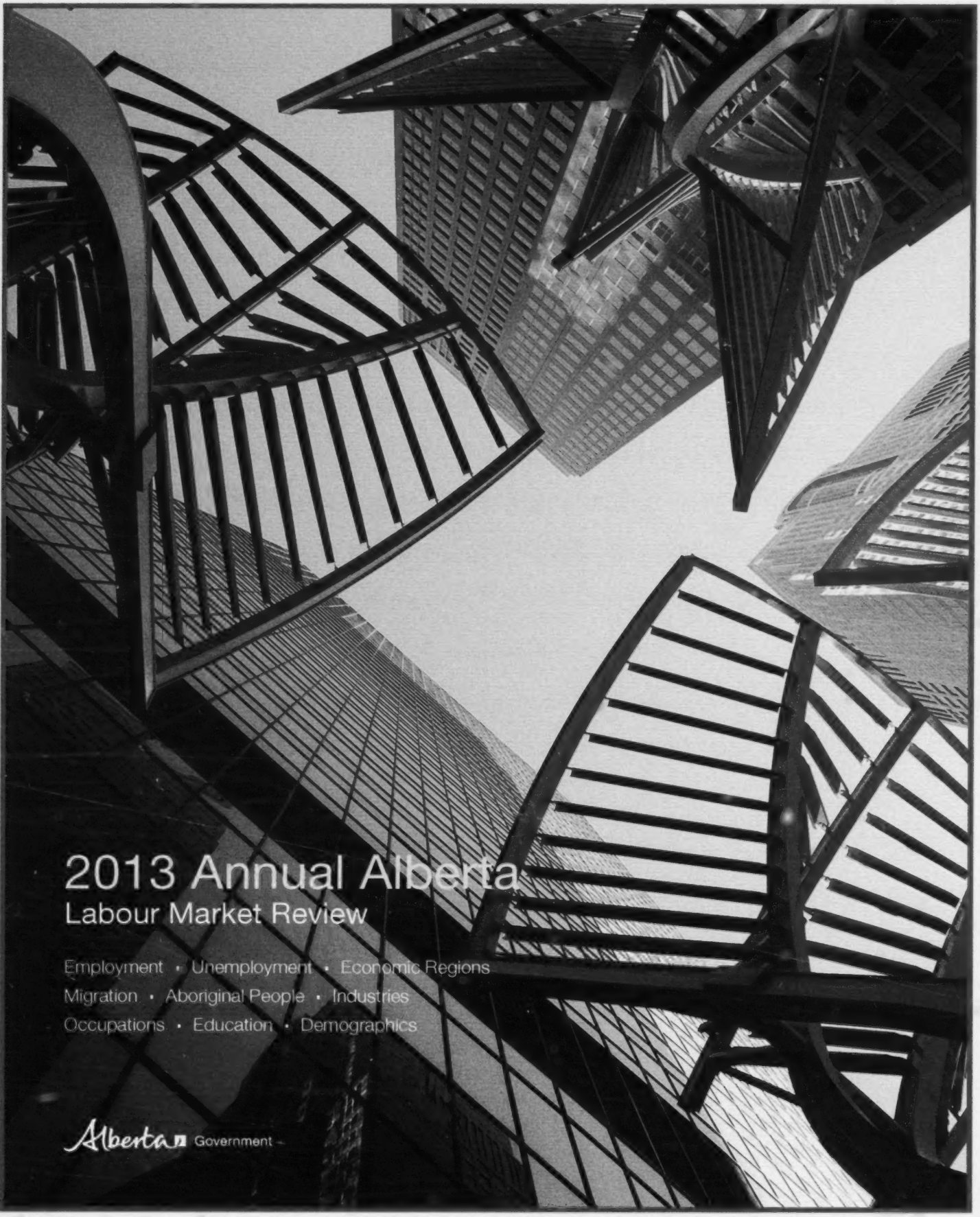


2013 Annual Alberta Labour Market Review

Employment • Unemployment • Economic Regions
Migration • Aboriginal People • Industries
Occupations • Education • Demographics

Alberta Government

Employment

Alberta had the second highest employment growth in the country

Alberta's employment in 2013 was 61,400 higher than in 2012. The province's total employment rose to 2,211,000 in 2013, a 2.9% increase from the level in 2012. Alberta had the second highest annual growth rate of employment among the ten provinces after Saskatchewan's 3.4% in 2013 (See Figure 1). Employment in Canada rose 1.3% in 2013.

Employment for Alberta's men grew by 2.6% or 30,500, and for women, it rose by 3.2% or 30,800 in 2013. Alberta's men and women aged 25 to 44 years old accounted for the largest share of employment increase at 71.5% and 62.3% respectively. Employment growth of 9.8% for women and 6.9% for men aged 65 years and older was higher than the provincial rate of 2.8% in 2013.

In 2013, full time employment in Alberta increased by 59,900 and part-time employment increased by 1,400. However, Albertans 55 years and older saw higher levels of both full-time and part-time employment. Full-time employment for men 55 years and older increased by 3.6% or 6,700 and for women the same age, by 7.8% or 8,800.

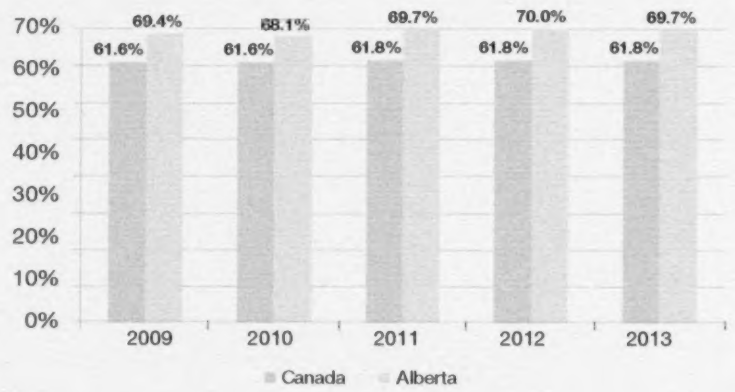
Figure 1

Provincial and National Employment, 2013

Province	Employment	Change from 2012	Per cent change
Alberta	2,211,000	61,400	2.9%
Newfoundland and Labrador	232,800	2,300	1.0%
Prince Edward Island	74,100	1,300	1.8%
Nova Scotia	453,800	-1,700	-0.4%
New Brunswick	351,200	-200	-0.1%
Quebec	4,032,200	47,800	1.2%
Ontario	6,879,400	95,700	1.4%
Manitoba	633,200	3,100	0.5%
Saskatchewan	555,300	18,200	3.4%
British Columbia	2,308,100	-4,400	-0.2%
Canada	17,731,200	223,500	1.3%

Figure 2

Alberta and Canada Employment Rates[1], 2009-2013



[1] *The employment rates measures the portion of the working age population (15 years and older) who are employed.*

Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Employment rate in Alberta was the highest in Canada

In 2013, Alberta's employment rate of 69.7% continued to be the highest among all provinces. The Canadian employment rate was 61.8%. Alberta's rate of 69.7% was 0.3 percentage points lower than the year before, and the same as in 2011 (See Figure 2).

The employment rates for Alberta men and women were 75.4% and 63.8% respectively, the highest among all provinces in 2013. The national employment rate was 65.8% for men and 58% for women.

At 73.1%, Alberta had the highest participation rate[2] in the country in 2013. The national participation rate was 66.5%. Alberta men's participation rate of 79.1% and women's rate of 66.8% were the highest among the ten provinces.

Employment in Alberta grew for the third consecutive year after declining in 2009 and 2010 (See Figure 3). Annual average employment rose by 55,500 in 2012 and by 61,400 in 2013. (See Figure 4)

Figure 3
Alberta Annual Average Growth in Employment, 2009-2013

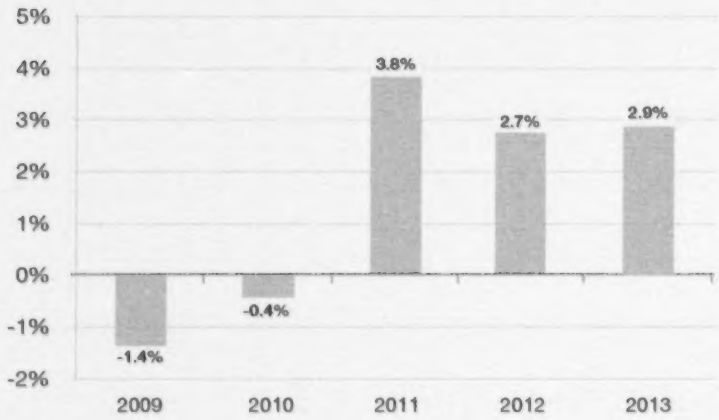
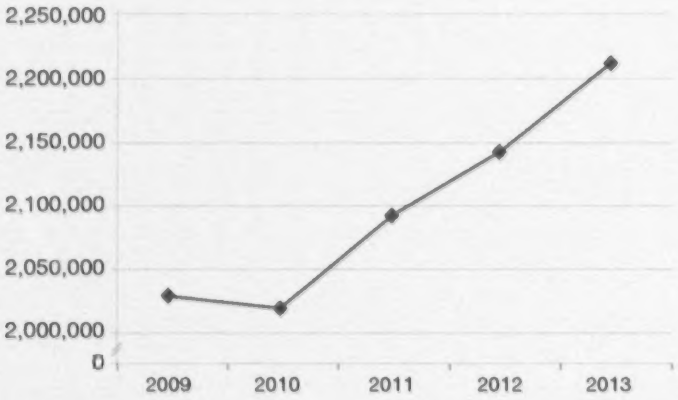


Figure 4
Alberta Annual Average Employment, 2009-2013



[2] *The participation rates measures the number of people who are employed and unemployed out of the working age population (15+ years).*

Source for charts: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Unemployment

Alberta had the second lowest unemployment rate in the country

Alberta's unemployment rate of 4.6% in 2013 was unchanged from the previous year (See Figure 5). This was the second lowest of the ten provinces after Saskatchewan's rate of 4.0% (See Figure 6). The unemployment rate for Alberta men increased to 4.7% from 4.5% in 2013; while the unemployment rate for Alberta women decreased to 4.5% from 4.7%. In 2013, Alberta men and women had the second lowest unemployment rate of the ten provinces after their counterparts in Saskatchewan.

The number of unemployed people in Alberta increased by 3,400 between 2012 and 2013. Male unemployment increased by 3,900, and for females, decreased by 500 in 2013, compared to the year before.

The unemployment rate for Alberta youths decreased from 8.9% to 8.6% in 2013, the second lowest in all provinces after Saskatchewan's rate of 7.8%. In 2013, Alberta's female youth unemployment rate of 8.5% was lower than the male youth rate of 8.6%.

Figure 5
Alberta and Canada Unemployment Rates, 2009-2013

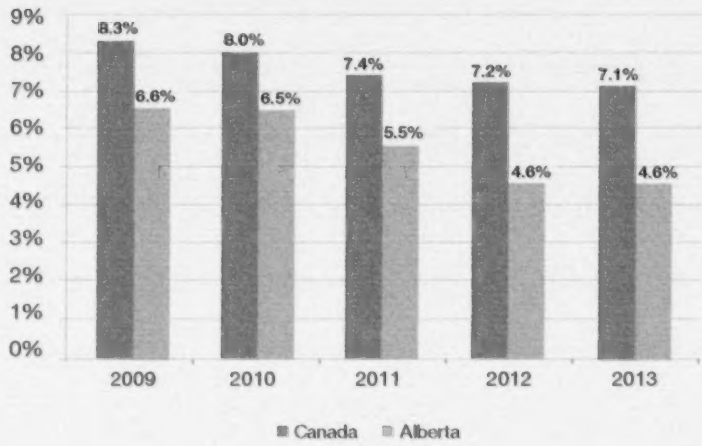
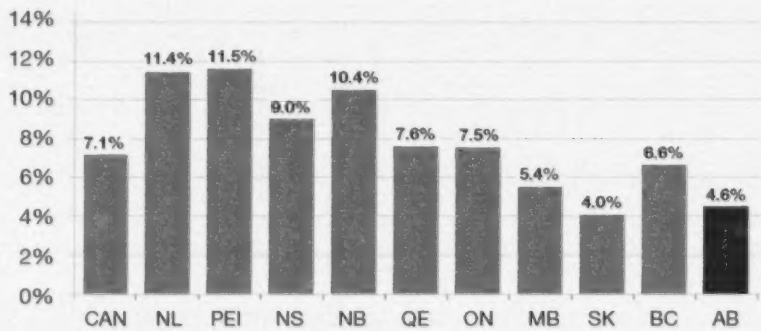


Figure 6
Provincial and National Unemployment Rates, 2013



Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Economic Regions

Unemployment rates

The unemployment rate fell in two of the eight economic regions for the third consecutive year. In 2013, the unemployment rate decreased the most in the Athabasca-Grande Prairie-Peace River region, by 0.5 percentage points (See Figure 7). At 3.7%, the unemployment rate in the Camrose-Drumheller region was the lowest of the eight regions in 2013 (See Figure 8). The Red Deer region had the highest unemployment rate at 4.9%.

Employment rose in all but one region, Lethbridge-Medicine Hat. This region saw a small decline in employment of 400 in 2013. The Edmonton region had the largest increase in employment, 24,300 in 2013, followed by Calgary with an increase of 24,200.

Figure 7

Economic Regions in Northern Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2009-2013

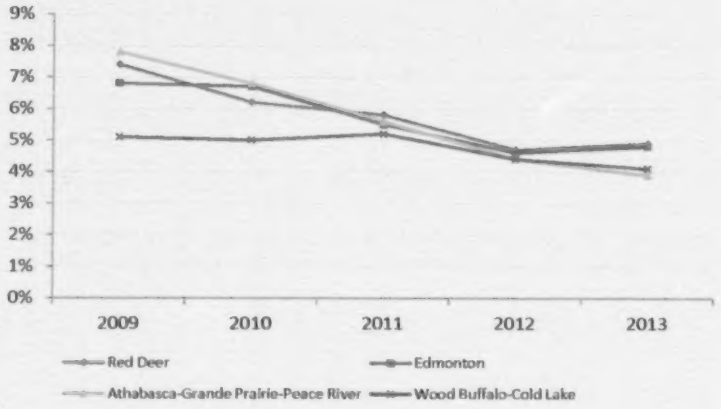
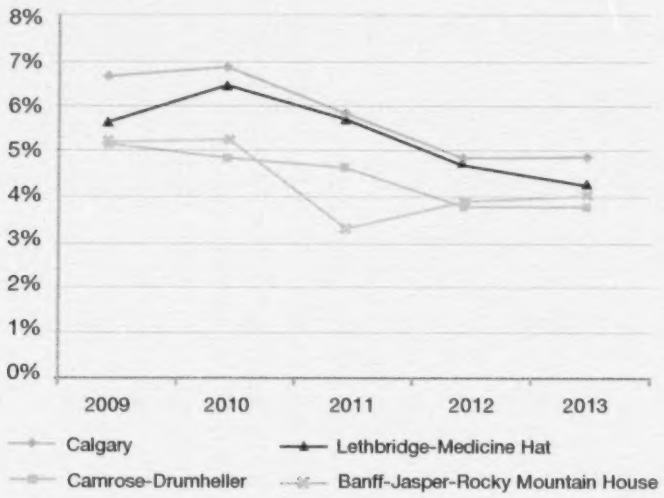


Figure 8

Economic Regions in Southern Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2009-2013



Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Migration

In-migration to Alberta outnumbered out-migration

In 2012, Alberta saw increases in the numbers of interprovincial in-migrants, temporary foreign workers and landed immigrants compared to the year before. The number of net interprovincial migrants to Alberta from other provinces rose by 30,704 in 2012, following low net migration levels of under 3,000 people in 2010 (See Figure 9).

The number of immigrants who landed in Alberta in 2012 was 5,132 higher than the year before (See Figure 10).

For temporary foreign workers coming to Alberta, the 2011 increase reversed one year of decline in 2010, when the number who came to Alberta fell. The number of temporary foreign workers who came to Alberta increased by more than ten thousand in 2012 compared to 2011.

In the first two quarters of 2013 there were 27,229 net provincial migrants, 21,735 temporary foreign workers and 18,637 landed immigrants (figure 10).

Figure 9

Alberta Interprovincial Migration, 2010-2013[3]

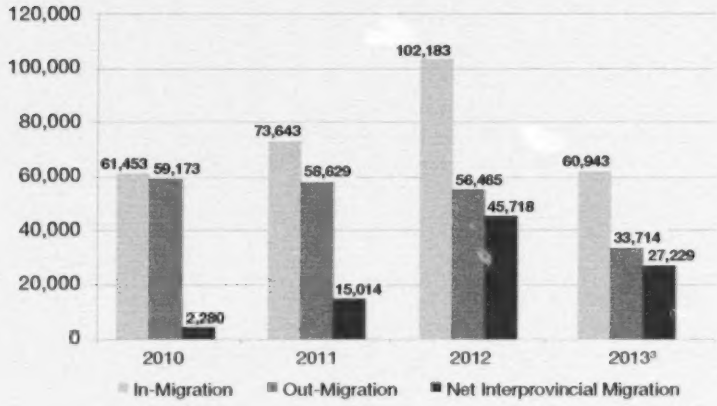
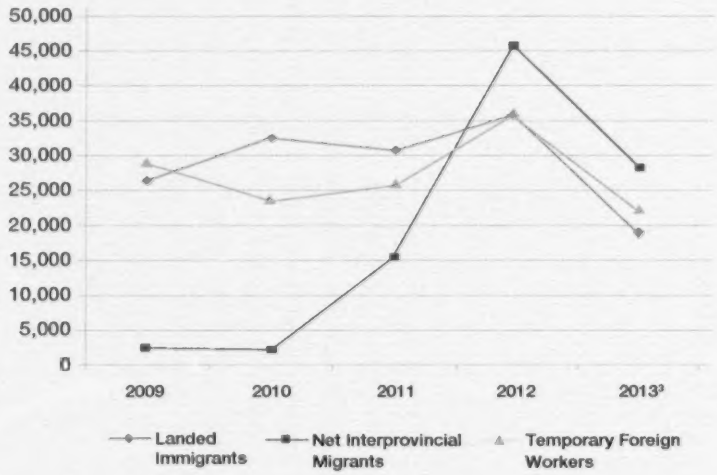


Figure 10

Alberta Landed Immigrants, Net Interprovincial Migrants, and Temporary Foreign Workers, 2009-2013[3]



[3]2013 data only based on first two quarters

Source for charts: Statistics Canada; Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Aboriginal People

Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve had the highest employment rate in the country

In 2013, the employment rate of Alberta's off-reserve Aboriginal population was 65.9%, the highest employment rate of all off-reserve Aboriginal people in the ten provinces. Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia tied for the second highest employment rate, at 58.7%. The average employment rate for Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Canada was 57.2% in 2013.

Employment of Alberta's off-reserve Aboriginal people increased by 8.8% or 6,900 in 2013. This was the highest increase of the ten provinces. Employment for off-reserve Aboriginal people in Canada rose by 1.7%.

More than 80% of all employed off-reserve Aboriginal people worked in four economic regions in Alberta: 58.0% in Calgary and Edmonton, and 22.4% in the Athabasca-Grande Prairie-Peace River and the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake regions (See Figure 11).

Between 2012 and 2013, the Edmonton and Red Deer regions saw the largest employment gains for Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve of 2,500 and 1,300 respectively. Only the Camrose-Drumheller region had a decrease in employment of 200 for Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

Approximately 37% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve were employed in three industries in 2013: Construction, 14.2%; Retail Trade, 11.5%; and Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction, 11.4%.

Figure 11

Alberta Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Employment by Economic Region, 2013

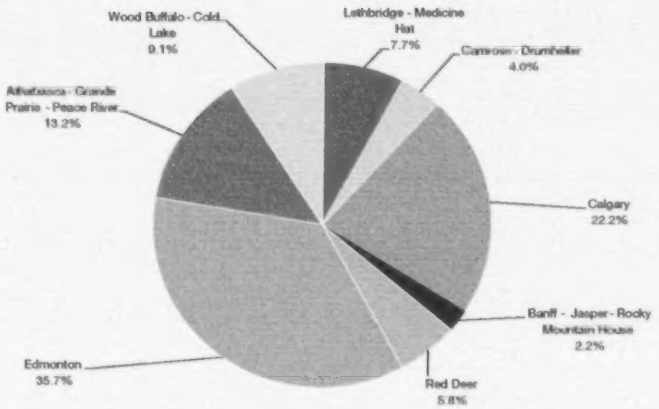
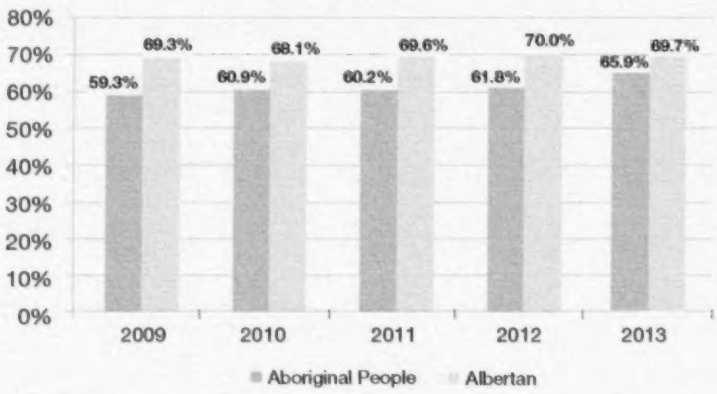


Figure 12

Alberta Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Employment Rates, 2009-2013



Source for charts: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Industries

Professional, Scientific and Technical Services Industry had the largest gain in employment

The Professional, Scientific and Technical Services industry had the largest increase in employment in 2013, rising by 19,700. This increase accounted for 32.1% of all employment gains in Alberta that year. Agriculture had the second largest employment increase of 7,100, which represents 11.6% of all the provincial gains in employment in 2013. Employment in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry rose by 6,700, accounting for 10.9% of all employment increases in the province (See Figure 13).

Employment was lower in five industries in 2013: Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, down 2,300; Utilities, down 2,000; Forestry and Logging with Support Activities, down 1,200; Educational Services, down 100; and Manufacturing, down 100.

The three industries with the lowest unemployment rate in 2013 were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 1.4%; WholesaleTrade, 1.7%; and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing, 2.3%.

Figure 13

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Industry, 2013

Industry Group	2013 Employment	Change from 2012	Unemployment Rate
Retail Trade	243,700	3,800	3.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	235,300	6,700	1.4%
Construction	231,300	4,700	5.0%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	177,600	19,700	2.4%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	171,200	-2,300	3.4%
Manufacturing	138,400	-100	4.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	135,700	2,400	4.3%
Educational Services	128,800	-100	2.9%
Transportation and Warehousing	117,400	1,000	3.2%
Other Services[4]	111,600	5,300	3.0%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	110,200	6,400	2.3%
Public Administration	89,500	900	*
Wholesale Trade	84,300	1,800	1.7%
Information, Culture and Recreation	77,300	6,200	4.6%
Business, Building and Other Support Services	74,100	1,200	7.0%
Agriculture	63,300	7,100	*
Utilities	18,700	-2,000	*
Forestry and Logging with Support Activities	2,500	-1,200	*

[4]This sector comprises establishments not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment, and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services, and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.
**Insufficient Data*

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Occupations

Sales and service occupations had the largest employment gain

In 2013, employment rose for seven of the ten occupational groups in Alberta. The Sales and Service occupations had the biggest increase of 19,800, followed by Natural and Applied Sciences and Related with an increase of 15,900 (See Figure 14).

Of the three occupational groups with decline in employment in 2013, the decreases were all below 3,100. These occupations were: Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related, down 3,000; Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities, down 2,900; Business, Finance and Administrative, down 600.

All occupational groups had unemployment rates below 5%, except for Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities. Four of the ten occupational groups had unemployment rates that were less than 3%: Management, 2.0%; Natural and Applied Sciences and Related, 2.1%; Occupations in Social Science, Education, Government Service and Religion, 2.1%; and Business, Finance and Administrative, 2.8%.

Figure 14

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Occupation, 2013

Occupations	2013 Employment	Change from 2012	Unemployment Rate
Management	165,000	3,400	2.0%
Business, Finance and Administrative	382,200	-600	2.8%
Natural and Applied Sciences and Related	192,900	15,900	2.1%
Health	134,100	1,300	*
Social Science, Education,Government Service and Religion	162,200	7,800	2.1%
Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport	55,600	10,400	*
Sales and Service	504,500	19,800	4.1%
Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related	415,600	-3,000	4.5%
Unique to Primary Industry[5]	134,400	9,200	4.1%
Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities	64,300	-2,900	5.9%

**Insufficient data*

[5] Some examples of occupations included in this group are: nursery greenhouse workers, landscaping and ground maintenance labourers, underground production and development miners, chain saw and skidder operators, farmers and farm managers, logging and forestry labourers, and fishing vessel deckhands.

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Education

The proportion of Alberta's labour force with diplomas or degrees continues to rise

The proportion of Alberta's labour force who have attained diploma, certificate or degree as highest level of education went up from 86.3% in 2009 to 88.0% in 2013 (See Figure 15).

Between 2009 and 2013, those in Alberta's labour force who had attained high school diploma as highest level of education increased by 13.6% or 66,400. This group comprised just under a quarter or 24.0%, of Alberta's labour force in 2013. The number of Alberta's male and female labour force who had high school diplomas as highest level of education increased by 14.7% or 39,800 and 12.1% or 26,600 respectively between 2009 and 2013.

Those in Alberta's labour force who had attained post-secondary certificates or diplomas as highest level of education rose by 42,200 or 5.7% between 2009 and 2013. In 2013, this group made up 34.0% of Alberta's labour force. Alberta's labour force that had some post-secondary and a high school diploma as highest level of education fell by 17,800 or 11.2% over the 2009 to 2013 period. This group made up 7.3% of the Alberta labour force in 2009, and by 2013, it was 6.1%.

In 2013, just under a quarter or 23.9% of Alberta's labour force had a university bachelor's or graduate degree as highest level of education , which is higher than the 21.9% in 2009. Of these, 48.2% were women in 2009; and in 2013, women made up 51.8% of Alberta's labour force with a bachelor's degree or a graduate degree.

Figure 15

Alberta Labour Force Educational Attainment Trends, 2009-2013

Educational Level	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No degree, certificate or diploma	13.7%	13.4%	13.0%	12.7%	12.0%
High school diploma	22.6%	22.5%	23.4%	24.1%	24.0%
High school graduate with some post-secondary	7.3%	7.2%	6.8%	6.0%	6.1%
Post-secondary certificate or diploma without high school diploma	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%
Post-secondary certificate or diploma with high school diploma	31.4%	31.7%	31.5%	31.6%	31.1%
University: bachelor's degree	16.2%	16.3%	16.4%	16.3%	17.3%
University: graduate degree	5.8%	5.7%	6.0%	6.4%	6.6%

Source for charts: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Demographics

Employment rose for all age groups

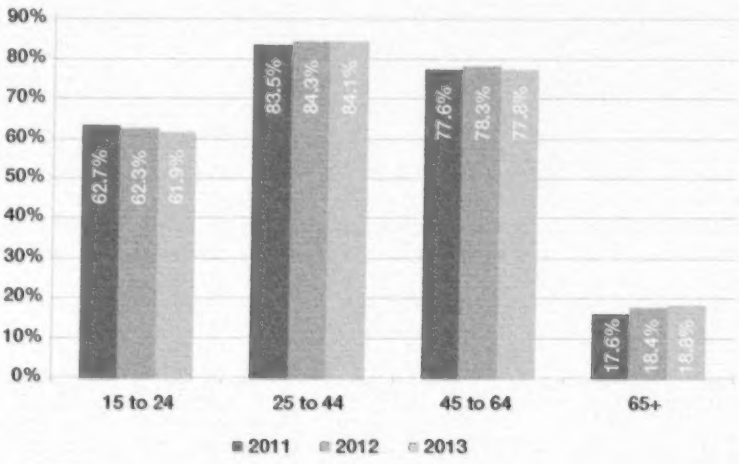
Employment in 2013, compared to 2012, was higher for the four age groups (Figure 16). Of the four age groups, those aged 25 to 44 had the largest employment increase of 40,900 or 4.1%. Employment grew by 5,900 or 7.9%, for Albertans 65 years and over, the highest employment growth rate among the four age groups. Employment for youth 15 to 24 years of age increased by 2,100 or 0.7% in 2013 compared to 2012.

The employment rate for youths 15 to 24 years of age fell 0.4 percentage points in 2013 compared to 2012 (See Figure 17). However, Alberta youths' employment rate of 61.9% was 6.8 percentage points above the rate for Canadian youths, at 55.1%. The employment rate for Alberta's youths was the second highest of the ten provinces, after Saskatchewan's rate of 63.6%.

The employment rate for Albertans aged 25 to 44 was 84.1% in 2013, the highest of the ten provinces. The employment rate for Canadians in this age group was 81.9%. At 18.8%, Albertans aged 65 years and over had the highest employment rate among their provincial counterparts. The national employment rate for the same age group was 12.5% in 2013.

Figure 16
Alberta Employment by Age Groups, 2012-2013

Figure 17
Alberta Employment Rates by Age Groups, 2011-2013



Source for charts: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

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